



Providing Engineering and Technology Experiences for Students (PETES)

A Technology Transfer for Education Project

FACT SHEET Air Force Research Laboratory Space Vehicles Directorate 505.853.3515 www.vs.af.mil

The goal of the Air Force Research Laboratory Providing Engineering and Technology Experiences for Students (AFRL PETES) Project is to instill confidence in those students who do not see themselves as being capable of math, science and engineering careers by providing opportunities for these students to mentor younger students. The AFRL PETES Project also acts as a bridge from elementary to middle school and middle school to high school. Air Force Core Values are embedded in this project and AFRL PETES mentors are expected to behave as character role models.

Students enter the AFRL PETES Project in the 6th grade by participating as mentors for fifth graders participating in the AFRL Mars Missions Project. The AFRL Mars Missions Project culminates in a Link-Up Day activity where multiple teams meet and actually construct inflatable plastic habitats, each measuring 12 feet by 12

feet by 8 feet. The AFRL PETES mentors will assist as members of Mission Control during the AFRL Mars Missions Link-Up Day.

During the school year, each AFRL PETES school studies a technology focus area selected by the teacher sponsor from that school. Students share what they learn about their focus topic with the elementary school students they mentor. All students participating in the AFRL PETES Project are invited to share their accomplishments at the AFRL Students Planning And Conducting Engineering Symposium and to get a look at the opportunities available to high school students. A field trip to an AFRL facility is also offered as available.



Current as of January 2003